



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Portland Man Sentenced on Federal Firearms Violations

FARGO - United States Attorney Drew Wrigley announces that on February 24, 2006, **David Calvin Werkhoven** of Portland, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Erickson on charges of possession of firearms by a convicted felon and possession of firearms by an unlawful user of a controlled substance.

Werkhoven, 45, pleaded guilty on December 6, 2005, to possessing one Ruger, Model 10/22, .22 caliber rifle, bearing serial number 247-60557, and one Winchester, Model 1906, .22 caliber rifle, bearing no serial number. **Werkhoven** also pleaded guilty to possessing firearms during a time when he was an unlawful user of a controlled substance.

Federal firearm statutes prohibit possession of firearms by a convicted felon, as well as by anyone who is illegally using drugs. According to the Indictment filed, **Werkhoven** was previously convicted of the following felonies: corruption of a minor in Cass County, ND (2000); felon in possession of a firearm (2 counts) and misappropriation of entrusted funds in Barnes County, North Dakota (1999); and burglary in Summit County, Colorado (1989).

Judge Erickson sentenced **Werkhoven** to four years and three months' imprisonment to be followed by three years of supervised release. **Werkhoven** was ordered to pay a \$200 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

“There are serious consequences for felons and drug addicts who illegally carry firearms,” said United States Attorney Drew Wrigley, “We will continue our efforts to aggressively pursue these cases, because the dangers to our communities are so apparent.”

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Assistant United States Attorney Janice M. Morley prosecuted the case.

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